

PRESTATYN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. D. P. W. ROBERTS
M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. J. M. EDWARDS, M.R.S.H., Cert. Meat and Other Foods

FOR THE YEAR

1964

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PRESTATYN**



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1964

HEALTH COMMITTEE 1964

Chairman: Coun. J. C. LEDSHAM

Coun. J. ELLIS EVANS, J.P.	Coun. A. T. PRICE
„ N. STEWART	„ G. H. BARKER
„ O. H. WILLIAMS	„ E. J. NEWBY
„ OWEN JONES	„ J. M. HUGHES
„ F. ALLITT	

Chairman of the Council: Coun. H. A. CRABTREE, J.P.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. D. P. W. ROBERTS

M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector: Meat and Food Inspector:

J. M. EDWARDS, M.R.S.H., Cert. Meat & Food Inspector

Clerk:

Mrs. B. PARRY

General Assistant:

J. E. PARRY

Meteorological Officer:

T. GRANT, M.I.Mun.E.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1964

To the Chairman and Members of the
Prestatyn Urban District Council.

I have pleasure in presenting my fourth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health of Prestatyn for the year 1964.

The population of the district rose by 580 to 12,070 and for the first time for many years the number of births (201) exceeded deaths (192) by 9. The birth rate when adjusted for the higher proportion of old people in the local population compared with the national average was 23.8 per 1000, compared with the national average of 18.4 and this is by far the highest birth rate ever recorded in the town. There were 4 still births giving a local rate of 20 per 1000 live births compared with the national average of 16.4 and there were 12 illegitimate births, making a local rate of 60 per 1000 live births compared with the national average of 72.

It is unfortunate that there was a rise in the local infant mortality rate to 30 per 1000 live births (national average 20) due to 6 infant deaths but 4 of these deaths occurred in the first week of life largely due to congenital malformations.

It is pleasing to record that there were no deaths of mothers in pregnancy and childbirth in 1964.

The local adjusted death rate was 9 per 1000 population compared with 11.3 nationally and was the lowest ever recorded rate.

When dealing with the health statistics of comparatively small authorities, substantial fluctuations can occur from year to year in the various rates previously quoted due to the small numbers involved and, therefore, too great an importance should not be attached to them.

Private speculative development continued during the year and 239 new dwellings were erected.

There seems to be little demand for new houses but bungalows are in great demand due to the popularity with retired people coming to live in the town. I hope that the new building byelaws likely to be enforced in February, 1966, will strengthen the hand of the local authority in ensuring that all private housing development complies with the minimum standards of construction. Speaking generally, concern has been expressed nationally about varying standards of house construction and it cannot be too strongly emphasized that prospective house purchasers must make the fullest possible enquiries about any property before purchase.

It is hoped to have the flats at Maes-y-Groes ready by the end of 1965 after many delays in the scheme and a warden is to be appointed to help the residents both at Maes-y-Groes and Pen-dyffryn Gardens.

The new toilets were opened at Central Beach and it is to be hoped that the vandals will spare the buildings. I would like to see the public toilets near Prestatyn Golf Club closed as the conditions that these are in are a bad reflection on the town.

The Prestatyn section of the Warren was cleared of shacks and has been developed as a satisfactory holiday caravan site with full sewerage facilities.

The town continues to grow rapidly but there has been little provision (except at Meliden) of playing fields apart from school playing fields, which are usually excluded to children during out-of-school hours.

It has been argued that the children have the wonderful beach to play on but there are areas of the town which are a considerable distance from the beach and I would like to see provision made in the Fforddisa areas of a playing field. Part of the Council's refuse tip could easily be made suitable for a playing field and provision has been made by the Health Committee each year for this purpose but unfortunately each time this money is always deleted by other committees of the Council in order to reduce the rate burden on the community.

It is paramount that all householders use fuel appliances in their homes that do not produce smoke so that the purity of Prestatyn's atmosphere can be maintained.

I should like to pay tribute to the outstanding efforts of the voluntary organisations of the district and particularly to the Women's Voluntary Service, who have provided an excellent "Meals on Wheels" service.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support and active interest in the Department, the Council Officials and in particular Mr. Edwards and Dr. G. W. Roberts.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

D. P. W. ROBERTS,

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

Land area (exclusive of foreshore)	1,640 acres
Land area (inclusive of foreshore)	3,219 acres
Population at mid-year 1964 (Registrar General's estimate) ...	12,070
Population change compared with previous year	580
Total number of properties (end of 1964)	4,950
Number of empty properties (end of 1964)	110
Rateable value of the Urban District at end of 1964	£500,583
Product of a penny rate	£1,970
General rate in £1	10/9d.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE URBAN DISTRICT

The town has become renowned as a locality for retirement, with a favourable climate and almost fog-free atmosphere.

The district has recently become popular with holidaymakers, both day trippers and residential, and miles of excellent sand and a safe-bathing beach contribute to the amenities of the town. The population of the Urban District is growing rapidly and within a decade, granted the present rate of expansion, it is possible for the population to exceed 17,000. There are no industries in the town, apart from catering for holidaymakers, but fortunately employment is available for manual and clerical workers in Deeside industrial plants which are within daily travelling distance.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births :

Live Births—Male 105, Female 96	201
Legitimate live births—Male 97, Female 92	189
Illegitimate live births—Male 8, Female 4	12
Illegitimate local rate per 1,000 live births	60
National illegitimate rate per 1,000 live births	72
Crude birth rate per 1,000 live births	16.4
Birth rate comparability factor	1.45
Birth rate standardised	23.8
National birth rate per 1,000 population	18.4

Still Births :

Still births (total)	4
Legitimate still births (total)	4
Illegitimate still births (total)	—
Local still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	20
National still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	16.4

Infant Mortality Rates :

Infant deaths under one year of age (total)	6
Legitimate infant deaths under one year of age (total)	6
Illegitimate infant deaths under one year of age (total)	—
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	30
National infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	20
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	32
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—

Infant deaths under 4 weeks of age (Neo-natal)	4
Legitimate infant deaths under 4 weeks of age	4
Illegitimate infant deaths under 4 weeks of age	—
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	20
National neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	13.8
Total peri-natal deaths (still births and deaths under one week combined)	8
Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	39
National peri-natal mortality rate	28.2
Deaths in first week of life (early neo-natal period)	4
Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	20

Maternal mortality, including abortion :

Number of deaths	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	—

DEATHS

Deaths—Male 98, Female 94	192
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	15.8
Comparability factor	0.57
Death rate standardised per 1,000 population	9
National death rate for England and Wales	11.3

POPULATION CHANGES IN THE URBAN DISTRICT

The following table shows the change in population due to migration :-

Year	Mid-year population : Registrar General's estimated figure	Population change during year	Change in population due to births and deaths only during year	Change in population due to migration
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1901	1,261	—	—	—
1911	2,036	—	—	—
1921	4,085	—	—	—
1931	4,511	—	—	—
1941	10,030	—	—	—
1951	8,809	—	—	—
1952	8,553	—256	—76	—180
1953	8,670	+117	—19	+136
1954	9,210	+540	—36	+576
1955	9,050	—160	—49	—111
1956	9,210	+160	—43	+203
1957	9,380	+170	—31	+201
1958	9,550	+170	—24	+194
1959	9,720	+170	—64	+234
1960	10,020	+300	—49	+349
1961	10,670	+650	—4	+654
1962	11,170	+500	—60	+560
1963	11,490	+320	—50	+370
1964	12,070	+580	+9	+573

A minus sign in Column 4 indicates an excess of deaths over births.

WARD POPULATIONS

Acres, Population, Private
Households and Dwellings.
Population

Local Authority Areas, Wards.
Civil Parishes in Rural District,
Conurbation Centres, New Towns.

Area	Private households and dwellings 1961												
	Density of Occupation												
1951	Population (1961)						Persons per room						
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)
Flintshire ...	163,707	145,279	150,082	72,266	77,816	0.9	47,341	145,842	46,864	227,766	0.65	5.0	
P'statyn U.D.	2,796	8,823	10,786	4,661	6,125	3.9	4,047	10,570	4,018	19,840	0.55	2.5	
Wards :													
Meliden ...	424	1,351	1,775	766	1,009	4.2	690	1,775	686	3,138	0.59	3.7	
North East	452	1,298	1,209	532	677	2.7	425	1,198	423	2,091	0.59	4.8	
North West	478	1,717	2,669	1,180	1,489	5.6	1,006	2,529	1,000	4,711	0.56	1.5	
South East	836	1,556	1,744	694	1,050	2.1	690	1,710	681	3,873	0.46	0.4	
South West	606	2,901	3,389	1,489	1,900	5.6	1,236	3,358	1,228	6,027	0.58	2.9	

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DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL CAUSES

The table below indicates the common causes of death in Great Britain in order of importance, as extracted from national returns:-

44%	...	Heart disease.
17%	...	Vascular lesions of C.N.S.
13%	...	Cancer, excluding cancer of lung.
8½%	...	All other causes.
5½%	...	Bronchitis.
5%	...	Other circulatory diseases.
2½%	...	Cancer of lung.
2½%	...	Pneumonia.
2%	...	Other respiratory diseases.

Cancer death.	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Lung	3	—	2	9	6	5	8	3	10	4	7
Stomach	5	5	1	6	3	4	4	2	3	6	2
Breast	4	5	1	6	2	4	1	3	3	4	2
Uterus	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	4	1	2	1
Leukaemia	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	2	2	—
Other sites	8	18	13	16	15	24	15	13	17	20	17
Total all sites	22	29	18	39	30	39	29	26	36	38	29

Coronary Heart Disease: During the past twenty years there has been a considerable rise in the incidence of this disease, and although improved methods of certification of death may have accounted for some of the rise, it is generally considered that there has been a real rise in the incidence of this disease.

The following chart shows the annual deaths from this disease in the urban district over the past 10 years :-

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Deaths	18	27	28	29	36	37	55	52	51	48	52

CEREBRAL VASCULAR DISEASE

As the proportion of people over 65 increases in the community so the incidence of cerebral vascular disorders ("strokes") increases. The rehabilitation of affected patients is often a long process and places great strain on the relatives and medical and nursing attendants.

It is increasingly recognised that early physiotherapy treatment is often the key to success. Skilled treatment can often prevent deformities, re-educate patterns of movement, and re-train skills.

Maintenance of range of movement during the early stages must be carried out passively, or stiffness will make functional activities more difficult, and the patient can do some of these movements himself, but the responsibility for this rests with the physiotherapist to show the patient how they may most easily be done.

Because of the acute shortage of physiotherapists, those patients treated at home, are often cared for by the district nurse who, through pressure of work, often finds she is unable to give the necessary time during the vital first few days after a stroke.

INFANT MORTALITY

There were 6 deaths of infants under 1 year of age and details are as follows: -

Age at death	
3 days	Atelectasis with Intraocular Haemorrhage, Prematurity.
1 day	Prematurity (twin delivery).
1 day	Atelectasis and Prematurity.
4 weeks	Multiple Congenital Abnormality. Defects skull and jaw, Congenital Cataract. Endophthalmitis.
9 hours	Pulmonary Atelectasis. Immaturity.
1 month	Infarction of Cerebellum following pressure cone. Hydrocephalus and Meningomyelocele.

CAUSES OF DEATH : REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN

	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	—	—	—
2. Tuberculosis, Other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	1	2
11. „ „ Lung, Bronchus	7	—	7
12. „ „ Breast	—	2	2
13. „ „ Uterus	—	1	1
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	7	10	17
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	2	—	2
17. Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	16	19	35
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	28	24	52
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	1	—	1
20. Other Heart Diseases	8	15	23
21. Other Circulatory Diseases	3	5	8
22. Influenza	—	—	—
23. Pneumonia	3	2	5
24. Bronchitis	9	2	11
25. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	1	1	2
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	—	—	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea ...	1	1	2
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	—	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations	1	1	2
32. Other Defined and Illdefined Diseases	7	7	14
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	—	—	—
34. All Other Accidents	—	2	2
35. Suicide	1	—	1
36. Homicide and War Operations	—	—	—
All Causes	98	94	192

CAUSES OF DEATH — LOCAL RETURNS

DISEASES	Sex	Total																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
		Under 1 year	1 & under 2 years	2 & under 3 years	3 & under 4 years	4 & under 5 years	5 & under 10 years	10 & under 15 years	15 & under 20 years	20 & under 25 years	25 & under 30 years	30 & under 35 years	35 & under 40 years	40 & under 45 years	45 & under 50 years	50 & under 55 years	55 & under 60 years	60 & under 65 years	65 & under 70 years	70 & under 75 years	75 years upwards																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
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TABLE SHOWING VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT IN RECENT YEARS

	Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population.	Number of local births: R.G.'s returns.	Local crude birth rate per 1,000 population.	Local adjusted rate.	National birth rate per 1,000 population.	Local deaths: R.G.'s returns.	Crude death rate per 1,000 population	Adjusted local rate per 1,000 population.	National death rate per 1,000 population	Infant deaths under 1 year of age.	Local infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births.	National infant mortality rate.
1911	2,036	25	12.5	—	23.8	30	14.2	—	13.9	2	25.0	—
1921	4,085	30	10.1	—	—	32	10.8	—	—	1	33.0	—
1931	4,511	60	14.0	—	15.8	46	10.76	—	12.3	4	66.0	—
1941	10,030	132	13.2	—	14.2	135	13.5	—	12.9	7	53.4	66.0
1951	8,809	91	10.4	—	15.5	173	19.8	12.9	12.5	4	44.0	29.6
1952	8,553	94	10.9	—	15.3	170	19.9	12.9	11.3	3	31.9	27.6
1953	8,670	108	12.4	14.5	15.5	127	14.6	9.5	11.4	1	9.3	26.8
1954	9,210	98	11.0	13.6	15.2	134	15.1	9.5	11.3	—	—	25.5
1955	9,050	99	10.9	13.5	15.0	148	16.4	10.3	11.7	4	40.2	24.9
1956	9,210	104	11.3	14.0	15.7	147	15.9	10.9	11.7	2	19.2	23.8
1957	9,380	124	13.0	16.2	16.1	155	16.5	11.2	11.5	2	16.1	23.0
1958	9,550	143	15.0	18.4	16.4	167	17.5	11.6	11.7	1	7.0	22.5
1959	9,720	127	12.03	13.35	16.5	181	18.6	14.1	11.6	6	51.28	22.0
1960	10,020	134	13.4	14.84	17.1	183	18.3	13.9	11.5	1	6.0	21.7
1961	10,750	172	16.4	17.06	17.4	176	16.3	13.4	12.0	4	23.3	21.4
1962	11,170	144	12.9	13.3	18.0	204	18.3	15.3	11.9	3	20.8	21.6
1963	11,490	155	13.4	17.4	18.2	205	17.8	11.3	12.2	2	12.9	20.9
1964	12,070	201	16.4	23.8	18.4	192	15.8	9	11.3	6	30	20

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The table shown below indicates the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases that occurred during 1964

Disease	At all ages	Under 1 year					5—9	10—14	15—44	45—64	Over 65	Cases admitted to hospital
Scarlet Fever	5	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Whooping Cough	12	1	2	—	—	—	4	1	2	—	—	—
Measles	88	8	12	—	—	—	39	—	2	—	—	—
Pneumonia	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pemphigus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	119	10	14	29	46	2	11	6	1	—	—	—

There were 88 cases of measles, 12 cases of whooping cough and 5 cases of scarlet fever reported to the Department during the year. The large number of cases of measles were an average annual figure and there were few complications arising from the disease. Experiments are being conducted to introduce a safe and effective vaccine to protect infants against the disease but we are awaiting the results of the latest Medical Research Council trials.

There were 8 cases of food poisoning notified during the year, the majority of these cases were amongst holidaymakers and it was impossible to trace the source of the infection. All the cases were isolated and cleared up on treatment. I am pleased to say that we did not have a recurrence in 1964 of the large number of food poisoning cases that occurred in 1963 in a local holiday camp and this improvement was probably due to the altered arrangements regarding the preparation of food in that food was cooked and served within a few hours.

Constant improvements are being made in kitchen equipment, but it is paramount to impress upon all those who work in food premises that they must practice the highest possible standards of hygiene to ensure that food is subject to the least possible contamination.

It is quite impossible for the staff of the Health Department to constantly inspect food premises and supervise all those working in shops and cafes and it is largely up to the general public to boycott all those food premises whose general level of hygiene is not up to present day standards.

**TABLE SHOWING TREND OF INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN THE URBAN
DISTRICT OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS**

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Scarlet Fever	5	3	3	2	6	19	3	5	2	6	5
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	4	1	34	1	—	2	1	2	—	2
Whooping Cough	3	3	18	53	19	8	3	1	—	9	12
Measles	12	197	8	53	197	20	137	106	111	41	88
Pneumonia	2	1	2	5	1	3	—	—	1	1	4
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Food Poisoning	2	1	3	3	5	1	1	6	—	*500	8
Dysentery	5	—	5	—	2	—	11	—	2	2	—
Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	2	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Respiratory ...	8	5	9	12	1	6	1	6	—	6	4
Tuberculosis Non-respiratory	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1

* Suspected

TUBERCULOSIS 1964

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26—35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
36—45	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
46—55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
56—65	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
66 and upwards ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

As will have been seen in the previous table, there were five new cases of tuberculosis notified in 1964. Close co-operation is maintained between the district, county and hospital authorities, as all have responsibilities in the treatment and after care of tuberculosis sufferers. Details of the new cases are given in the table.

There were no re-admissions to hospital for treatment of tuberculosis of patients identified as suffering from T.B. in previous years.

Most county district health authorities maintain a tuberculosis register of all persons who are suffering or recently have suffered from the disease, and the local list was revised in conjunction with the Chest Clinic at Royal Alexandra Hospital and the County Council records and the position at the end of 1964 was as follows: -

Pulmonary Cases	Males: 28 ...	Females: 22
Non-Pulmonary Cases	Males: 2 ...	Females: 1

Bovine tuberculosis has been eliminated due to the introduction of tuberculin testing of cattle and the slaughter of positive reactors.

CHEST X-RAY FACILITIES

The Welsh Regional Hospital Board has a mobile X-ray unit based at Wrexham, which visits all parts of North Wales, and regularly every third Tuesday is located at Rhyl Town Hall all day. The unit is available to all members of the public except young children, and details are given below of the 1964 results: -

TABLE I

Details of examinations carried out by Unit "G" during the period
1st January 1964 to 1st December 1964.

Circuit location	Number Examined	Number of visits	Average attendance per visit
Flintshire :			
Holywell	1,028	16	64
Mold	912	17	53
Rhyl	1,946	16	121
Shotton	694	16	43
Special Surveys	6,480	—	—

TABLE II

Analysis showing Type of Examinee

Type of Examinee	Rhyl
General Population Volunteers	1,905
General Practitioner Referrals	119
Scholars	65
Students	—
Contacts	98
Mental Hospital Staff	—
Factory Groups—Industrial	—
—Non Industrial	72
Special Groups	—
Mental Patients	—
	<hr/> 2,259 <hr/>

TABLE III

**Details of total number of cases referred to Chest Clinic or diagnosed
as abnormal by the Mass Radiography Unit**

	Referred for further investigation to Chest Clinics	Other Pulmonary Abnormalities diagnosed on Unit	Total
Flintshire			
Holywell	15	17	32
Mold	10	14	24
Rhyl	104	92	196
Shotton	11	13	24
Special Surveys	22	23	45

TABLE IV

Analysis of total number of cases found to be abnormal.

Abnormality	Flintshire
Confirmed Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
"New" Cases	4
"Old" Cases	—
Healed Primary Tuberculosis	13
Healed Post Primary Tuberculosis	55
Abnormality of the Boney Thorax and soft tissues	47
Malignant Neoplasm	9
Non-Malignant Neoplasm	1
Congenital Cardiac Abnormalities	5
Acquired Cardiac Abnormalities	34
Pneumoconiosis—without P.M.F.	3
—with P.M.F.	1
Pulmonary Fibrosis—non tuberculous (to include Asthma and Bronchitis)	19
Emphysema	13
Bronchiectasis	6
Bacterial or virus infection	11
Pleural thickening or calcification	32
Abnormalities of the Diaphragm and Oesophagus	7
Malformation of the Lungs	1
Spontaneous pneumothorax	—
Miscellaneous	6
Further observations required	2
Failed to attend Chest Clinic	10
	279
Negative after investigation at Chest Clinic	42
	321
Total number of people X-rayed	6,354

I am indebted to Dr. Jarman for these statistics.

The Mass X-Ray unit visited Prestatyn during the year for four days and over 207 people attended for X-Ray. The results for the County are included above.

CHEST CLINIC

The treatment of cases of tuberculosis is the responsibility of the Consultant Chest Physician, Dr. Morrison, at Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl.

PROVISION OF SERVICES UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT, 1946

The following services are the responsibility of the Flintshire County Council, and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer, Dr. G. W. Roberts, for allowing me to give full details of the following services available locally :-

SECTION 22—CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

There is one Clinic in Prestatyn which is situated in Kings Avenue, and Infant Welfare Clinics are held every Friday between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. A Medical Officer attends every first and third Friday.

ANTE NATAL CLINICS

Ante Natal Clinics are held at Kings Avenue on alternative Fridays and are staffed by the Consultant Obstetrician. Talks are given by health visitors to the mothers on child birth and baby management.

FAMILY PLANNING

Family Planning facilities are available at Flint and Rhyl for the Prestatyn area.

WELFARE FOODS

Distribution of Welfare Foods (National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, Vitamin Tablets and Orange Juice) is carried out by the Women's Voluntary Service, Local Branch, on behalf of the County Council, and the distribution centre is at The Scala Buildings on Tuesdays and Saturdays between 11 a.m. and 12 noon. At the W.V.S. Centre on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

DENTAL CARE OF EXPECTANT MOTHERS

This is arranged at the County Council Clinics in the area and is carried out by the Dental Officers employed by the County Council. Treatment is arranged free during the ante-natal and post-natal periods up to one year after the birth of the child. It is regrettable that more mothers do not take advantage of these facilities.

SECTION 23—MIDWIFERY SERVICES

There are three midwives who are also trained district nurses employed in the area, who carry out ante-natal and post-natal care for mothers during this time and after discharge from hospital after childbirth.

SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITORS

There are two health visitors employed locally and they are responsible for giving advice to families of all ages with special reference to the young and the very old. Their duties have increased of late due to the ever expanding demands of the old people of Prestatyn, and their work is complementary to that of the General Practitioner, who is often so hard pressed throughout his daily routine and is quite unable to give the necessary advice on health matters that should be given by him to his patients. There is a growing tendency to assign health visitors to groups of practitioners so as to assist them in their daily duties, especially on health education and the prevention of illness, and this is being considered for certain parts of the County.

SECTION 25—HOME NURSING

As mentioned in the previous paragraph, the duties of the mid-wife are shared with those of the district nurse in the area, and the district nursing aspect of the work is increasing in relation to the midwifery side which is diminishing because of the increasing proportion of Hospital confinements in the area. As mention will be made in a later part of the Report of the increasing number of people in Prestatyn, there will be further heavy demands which will probably necessitate increasing the staff. Home helps are engaged in the town mainly on a part-time basis, and this service is a most valuable and important recent development of local authority services.

MEASLES

Experiments are being conducted to introduce a safe and effective vaccine to protect infants against the disease, and it may take the form of a live or killed vaccine.

SECTION 27—AMBULANCES

The ambulance service is radio-controlled and administered from the headquarters at Mold. A local station is situated at Rhyl.

SECTION 28—PREVENTION OF ILLNESS AND AFTER CARE LOAN OF EQUIPMENT

The County Council loan equipment to handicapped persons to assist rehabilitation. Arrangements are in force whereby persons may also hire medical equipment from the local British Red Cross Organisation at a very small fee, and enquiries are directed to Red Cross Headquarters at Victoria Avenue between 3 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. This is a most valuable service provided by this wonderful voluntary organisation and they are to be highly commended on their efforts.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Treatment, which is free and confidential, is available at the following clinics :-

H.M. Stanley Hospital, St. Asaph.

Male and Females—5.30 to 7 p.m. (Tuesdays)

Chester Royal Infirmary.

Males—Wednesday, 5—7 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.—1 p.m.

Females—Monday, 5—7 p.m.. Thursday, 5—7 p.m.

SCHOOL HEALTH

Medical examinations of school children were carried out by me as Assistant County Medical Officer in the district during the year, and I am pleased to say that the standard of health of the school children locally is very high indeed. There is a constant influx of new children and overcrowding is a serious problem in one school.

PROTECTION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS (B.C.G. VACCINATION)

All thirteen-year-old pupils are offered protection against Tuberculosis, which has proved to be most valuable in reducing the incidence of the disease.

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBNORMALITY

This is an expanding field of medical care, and the after-care of patients discharged from Mental Hospitals is the responsibility of the County Council Mental Welfare Officers.

Children who are of school age, who are mentally retarded and not suitable for education in ordinary schools are admitted to the Training Centre at Rhuddlan for sub-normal children.

NURSING HOMES

The following Nursing Home in the town is registered under the Public Health Act, 1936, with the County Council, and inspected periodically: Hawarden House, Victoria Road, Prestatyn.

WELFARE SERVICES

Homes are provided by the County Council for the admission of aged and handicapped persons who are unable to look after themselves adequately in their own homes. Two such homes are situated in Prestatyn, i.e., Park House and Carr Holm.

SECTION 47—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

This section conveys powers to District Councils to remove persons who are “aged, infirm, or suffering from grave chronic diseases and are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to look after themselves and are not receiving adequate care and attention from others.”

During the year frequent instances of people requiring care and assistance were brought to the notice of the health department and the majority of cases were admitted to homes or hospital and it is pleasing to record that legal action was not necessary in any case.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Details are given below of the Employment Officer's Report for the Rhyl, Prestatyn St. Asaph and Abergele areas for the year 1964: -

(1) Unemployment

Number of Persons Registered as Unemployed (excluding Registered Disabled Persons requiring employment under sheltered conditions) for the year 1964.

Date	Men	Women	Total
13th January	543	187	730 (849)
10th February	493	142	635 (822)
16th March	438	123	561 (887)
13th April	421	97	518 (739)
11th May	347	64	411 (633)
15th June	220	5	225 (378)
13th July	214	1	215 (366)
10th August	260	4	264 (390)
14th September	303	24	327 (433)
12th October	435	102	537 (681)
9th November	454	141	595 (741)
7th December	481	147	628 (757)

The comparable figures for 1963 are given in brackets after each month, by total.

It is clear that the upward trend in unemployment since 1961 was not only halted but there was a substantial drop for each month of 1964.

This was due in the main to the fact that practically all factories in the area were expanding; the fact that the construction industry was highly active; and these factors had a good effect on the Distributive Trades.

(2) Disabled Persons — Section I

Number of Unemployed Registered Disabled Persons (excluding those suitable for employment under sheltered conditions only).

Date	Men	Women	Total
13th January	61	6	67 (65)
10th February	69	8	77 (71)
16th March	63	7	70 (68)
13th April	64	5	69 (67)
11th May	53	3	56 (69)
15th June	34	1	35 (53)
13th July	35	1	36 (39)
10th August	38	—	38 (48)
14th September	40	2	42 (51)
12th October	51	6	57 (75)
9th November	57	9	66 (85)
7th December	65	9	74 (78)

Comparable figures for 1963 are given in brackets after the totals.

Section II Cases

The number of unemployed registered disabled persons who are suitable for employment only under sheltered conditions varied during the year from three to nine.

Other figures about Disabled Persons

The number of names on the local register of Disabled Persons are as follows :

Date	Men	Women	Total
17th April, 1961	412	51	463
16th April, 1962	409	72	481
15th April, 1963	422	59	481
13th April, 1964	438	72	510

A breakdown of the foregoing figures shows the causes of disablement :

	April 1963		April 1964	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
1914-18 Pensioners	45	—	43	—
Other H.M. Forces Cases	106	2	121	—
Disabled from birth or early childhood	48	17	52	27
Industrial accident or disease	67	5	68	8

The main type of disabilities are injuries and diseases of the lower limbs, followed by injuries and diseases to the upper limbs, spinal troubles, heart complaints and chest complaints.

Many disabled persons have moved into this area for health reasons and it is probably true to say that a resort is likely to have a higher proportion of these people than other areas.

A high proportion of the disabled persons are in the higher age groups as the following table indicates: -

Analysis of Register of Disabled Persons according to age
as at 20th April 1964

Age	Men	Age	Women
18—19	1	18—19	2
20—24	13	20—24	8
25—39	80	25—39	19
40—49	103	40—49	16
50—54	63	50—54	9
55—64	115	55—59	12
65 and over	63	60 and over	6

Many disabled persons who move into the area have skills for which there is no local demand but despite this factor it can be seen that a high proportion of disabled persons are in regular employment. It must be borne in mind too that some persons who would be appropriate to the disabled register do not in fact register and are in normal employment. This position is due to adaptability and the increasing willingness of employers to recognise that, given the right conditions, a disabled person is as good as the able-bodied worker. It is also the result of Industrial Rehabilitation and re-training at Government Training Centres.

(3) Employment

The area is traditionally a seaside holiday resort with high demands for labour in the hotel, catering, amusements and distributive trades in the summer season each year and a lack of employment prospects in the winter months.

Since 1957, however, there have been about eight factories introduced into the area, offering all the year round work and there has been a gradual shift from seasonal to permanent employment.

The vacancies outstanding in the office area on 4th August 1965, were: -

Industries	Men	Women
Agriculture and Horticulture	1	—
Food, Drink and Tobacco	—	4
Engineering and Electrical Goods	3	24
Construction	12	—
Transport and Communications	—	1
Distributive Trades	5	13
Professional and Scientific Services	1	38
Miscellaneous Services	15	43
(e.g., Amusements, Catering, Laundries, Private Domestic)		
Public Administration	9	—

A high proportion of the vacancies for men are in skilled occupations and there is a shortage of female labour at this time.

The optimistic forecast for 1964 made in my last report was more than justified. This office during 1964 placed in employment 1,004 men and 675 women a total of 1,679.

(4) General

Practically all the factories expanded their labour forces during 1964 and this has been reflected in an increased labour force in the distributive trades.

The steady increase in the insured population over the past few years levelled out in 1964 but I feel that the trend for the next few years will be a slight but steady increase. I think it fair to say that a good proportion of the workpeople who move into the area are in the higher age groups, having moved on medical advice, and have special skills or experience which are difficult to fit into the industrial pattern of the area.

The position in 1965 has continued on the same optimistic note set in 1964, with prospects of employment being good for the adaptable worker.

METEOROLOGY

Full details of climatic conditions during the year in Prestatyn are given at the end of Mr. Edwards' Report, but Prestatyn is fortunate in having a very equable dry climate and free from fog. It is particularly suitable for persons who are suffering from respiratory diseases.

SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES

There is no licensed slaughter house in Prestatyn.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

There are 30 properties in the district not connected to the main drainage system.

The surface water system is in the main separate from the foul water system and in certain areas is unsatisfactory. Considerable flooding occurs during heavy thunderstorms especially in Lower High Street and the Council have given approval to a plan to relieve this problem.

The sewer outfall to the sea is unsatisfactory and the Council are awaiting the Consulting Engineers report on the matter.

There is a strong case, in my opinion, for sewerage boards comprising of many local authorities for dealing with this problem of sea pollution.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

During the year samples were taken regularly from the swimming Pools and were satisfactory, and further details appear later in Mr. Edwards' Report.

Prestatyn is an expanding seaside resort and I consider that it will be desirable in the not too distant future for arrangements to be made for a heated indoor Swimming Pool.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

The local Public Health Laboratory is situate at Conway, and Dr. Kingsley Smith, the Director, and his Deputy, Dr. Griffiths, carry out the bacteriological examinations of specimens sent from the Urban District. They have been most co-operative and my gratitude is extended to them for their advice and help throughout the year.

WATER SUPPLY

During the year 82 samples of water were taken and found to be satisfactory bacteriologically.

I list below a Report on a sample of water submitted during the year for chemical analysis:—

"Analysis :

Appearance	Slightly Cloudy
Odour	Nil
Reaction, pH	7.3
	parts per million
Total solids	353
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	0.00
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	0.00
Nitrogen as nitrites	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	2.5
Chlorides, as Cl	30
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27°C.	0.4
Total hardness	295
Temporary hardness	202
Permanent hardness	93
Alkalinity	202
Free Chlorine	Nil
Potassium, as K	1.5
Anionic synthetic detergents	Nil
Manganese, as Mn	less than 0.025
Cyanides and Thiocynates	Nil
Poisonous metals	Nil

Opinion :

The chemical condition of this water is satisfactory."

There are no bore holes in the district, but three dwellings are still served by wells due to difficulties in arranging a satisfactory main water supply.

Number of dwellings served by public main direct to house	4,806
Number of dwellings served by means of stand pipes	2
Number of dwellings served by means of wells	3
New mains were laid in	205

MILK SUPPLY

The sampling of milk for submission for bacteriological and chemical analysis is now the responsibility of the County Council, and details are given in Mr. Lewis' Report (County Public Health Inspector) of the number of samples of milk taken and the results thereof.

I am pleased to say it was not necessary to issue any pasteurisation orders on milk unfit for consumption but, nevertheless, it is necessary to take regular samples to ensure a clean milk supply. There is a need to streamline the present administration of Food & Drugs Acts. This is a national problem and not a local one and I must take this opportunity of thanking the County Health Department officials for their co-operation in this matter.

CARAVAN SITES

The Caravan Sites in the Urban District are gradually being brought up to standard under the Caravan Act, 1960. Further details of these appear in Mr. Edwards' Report.

It is regrettable that there is little control over tents in the district, and it is a regular and common feature during the Summer week-ends for large numbers of tents to be situated in certain fields with insufficient sanitation. Furthermore, it has a serious effect on the amenities of the area and one difficulty is that the sites used at present have been used for camping for many years, but increasing numbers of campers are using them each year.

I consider that some action will be necessary to control this nuisance but, on the other hand, since Prestatyn is a holiday resort, other arrangements must be made to meet the need for camping. Furthermore, I suggest that a Municipal Site be acquired for both camping and caravanning, where adequate sanitary facilities and density of tents and caravans can be laid down. Some improvements have been effected in two of the local tenting sites.

SMOKE CONTROL

There has been increasing emphasis on control of atmospheric pollution during the past few years. It is becoming very evident that there is a strong link between lung cancer and chronic bronchitis and pollution of the atmosphere, whether it be from cigarette smoke, petrol fumes or combustion of coal. Prestatyn, fortunately, enjoys a fairly clean atmosphere, due to its location, but I urge householders to burn smokeless fuels or convert to gas, oil or electricity to reduce atmospheric pollution.

HOUSING

During 1964 the extent of new property constructed is shown below:—

The number of private new houses built in the town was	9
The number of private new bungalows built in the town was ...	230
The number of Council property built in the town was	—

There has been a great expansion in the private speculative building in the town during the past few years and it appears that the present trend is likely to be continued. Reference has been made to the implications of this previously in the special survey.

HOUSING WAITING LISTS AT END OF 1964

The number of people waiting for Council houses is	170
The number of people waiting for old people's bungalows is ...	173
The number of Council houses is	455
The number of old people's bungalows is	22
The number of old people's flats is	8

A little progress was made during the year on a housing scheme at Maes-y-Groes for the old people and this scheme is urgently required as the number of people waiting for accommodation has risen during the year.

Since 1948 the Council have built 279 houses, bungalows and flats and the table shown below indicates the yearly totals of property constructed in the town: —

Year	New Council property	New Private property	Total
1964	—	239	239
1963	12	176	188
1962	8	251	259
1961	4	272	276
1960	—	247	247
1959	4	182	186
1958	22	68	90
1957	10	79	89
1956	14	90	104
1955	—	76	76
1954	11	77	88
1953	19	62	81
1952	42	10	52
1951	2	7	9
1950	40	3	43
1949	31	10	41
1948	60	—	60

The tremendous spurt in private house building in the past five years is seen in the above table.

**TABLE SHOWING HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN THE TOWN
OVER THE PAST YEARS**

Year	Population	No. of properties	No. of persons per property	Rateable value	Product of 1d. rate
1911	2,036 ...	532 ...	3.8 ...	— ...	—
1921	*4,085 ...	770 ...	5.3 ...	£22,625 ...	£81
1931	4,511 ...	1,579 ...	2.9 ...	£43,310 ...	£163
1941	‡10,030 ...	2,750 ...	3.6 ...	£74,731 ...	£299
1951	8,809 ...	3,536 ...	2.5 ...	£82,188 ...	£325
1961	10,670 ...	4,410 ...	2.4 ...	£166,284 ...	£668
1962	11,170 ...	4,660 ...	2.4 ...	£176,590 ...	£706
1963	11,490 ...	4,720 ...	2.4 ...	†£480,219 ...	£1,896
1964	12,070 ...	4,785 ...	2.5 ...	£500,583 ...	£1,970

*Uncorrected figure. Corrected—2,946, which gives a figure of 3.8 persons per house.

‡This abnormally high figure was due to war-time reception of evacuees.

†The increase in rateable value is due to re-assessment.

The above table shows the improvement in overcrowding that has taken place in the town especially in the past thirty years.

SLUM CLEARANCE

There is very little property in Prestatyn which falls within the category requiring demolition, that is, properties which cannot be reconstructed at reasonable cost.

The remaining area for slum clearance is The Warren, where conditions can only be described as primitive; without sanitation, water supply or adequate roads, and the final clearance of unfit dwellings has been completed. The Council are acquiring certain properties in the town which are sub-standard and hope to re-develop the site.

SUPERANNUATION

Fifteen medical examinations were carried out in 1964 on Urban District staff, either for fitness to commence employment or because of absence from work through ill health.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no such establishments in the district.

INSPECTIONS UNDER FACTORIES ACT, 1937 TO 1959

The prescribed particulars of inspections carried out during the year are provided in the annexe to this report.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1964



GENERAL SUMMARY OF VISITS, ETC.

GENERAL SANITATION

Water Supply	19
Drainage	120
Stables, Piggeries, etc.	6
Fried Fish Shops	—
Camps, etc.	134
Factories and Workshops	4
Bakehouses	—
Public Conveniences	40
Schools	—
Watercourses	1
Special Visits re. Housing	41
Visits re. Housing Defects	—
Visits under National Assistance Act, Sec. 47 and 60	5
Premises re. Insect Pests	11
Miscellaneous Visits and Re-inspections	184
Complaints received and investigated	23
Number of nuisances abated	13
Number of Preliminary notices served for nuisances	13
Formal notices for nuisances	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Number of cases occurring	14
Enquiries	232
Number removed to Hospital	—
Disinfection	23

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Butchers' Shops	9
Fishmongers	3
Grocers	81
Ice Cream Premises	1
Food Preparing Premises	69
Dairies and Milk Shops	5
Miscellaneous	57

SANITARY DEFECTS, ETC.

Defective Roofs	3
Defective Floors	1
Defective Eaves and Downspouts	—
Defective Doors	1

Defective Windows	2
Defective Wall and Ceiling Plaster	5
Defective Grates	—
Defective Chimneys	2
Dampness	2
Defective Sinks and Washbasins	—
Defective Gullies and Wastepipes	—
Defective Pavings	1
Defective Drains	11
Number of Stopped Drains	463
Defective Inspection Chambers	1
Defective Septic Tanks	1
Defective Water Closets	5
Defective W.C. Cisterns and Fittings	2
Insufficient W.C. Accommodation	2
Insufficient Water Supply	2
Accumulation of Refuse	1
Dilapidated Dustbin	—
Dirty Houses, Outhouses and Yards	2
Insect Pests	27
Rats and Mice	284
Animals kept in Insanitary Conditions	1
Choked and Insanitary Ditches	2
Miscellaneous	9

NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN DWELLINGS

Farms and Dairies	1
Camps and Caravans	—
Cafes	—
Offices	1
Shops	—
Food Shops	2
Schools	—
Bakeries	3
Hotels	—
Garages, etc.	1
Fried Fish Shops	—
Miscellaneous	3

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Number of visits re. Collection and Salvage	427
Number of visits re. Disposal	136

This service is carried out with two eighteen cubic yard rear-loading vehicles and one ten cubic yard side-loading vehicle, which is now over ten years old and is due for replacement.

Again this year the time lost due to absenteeism and sickness has been rather high—a total of 269½ days as compared with 221 for last year. The supplying of replacement labour is practically impossible since suitable labour is not available at the local labour exchange, and since medical certificates received in respect of sickness give no indication as to the particular illness of the individual, it is practically impossible to ascertain for what length of time any man may be away from work sick.

The number of properties in the Council's area continues to increase, 205 new properties having been constructed during 1964, and the refuse collection service frequently fell into arrears of intervals of up to 10 to 14 days. This frequency was considered to be unsatisfactory and consultants were called in to make a survey of the refuse collection and disposal services with a view to making recommendations for improvement and the institution of a once weekly collection. This survey was carried out immediately after Christmas 1963 and their report submitted to the Council early this year.

As a result of discussions between the Council, the workmen and the workmen's Union concerned, a Bonus Scheme was instituted and I am pleased to say that this has proved to be very successful, the whole of the town's refuse now being collected weekly.

During the holiday season, refuse from the Central Beach, Ffrith Beach and Caravan Sites is collected with a 10 cubic yard side-loading vehicle and additional men are employed for this purpose.

This vehicle is now 10 years old and is in a condition when it should be replaced with a larger capacity vehicle. When considering the purchase of new vehicles in future, note will have to be taken of the fact that refuse generally has become greater in volume and lighter in weight and, as a result, it will be necessary to concentrate on the provision of compression type vehicles, otherwise the number of runs a vehicle will be required to make daily to the refuse tip will increase, resulting in increases in costs.

The work of controlling the disposal of refuse is carried out by one man working on the tip face, assisted by a Wetherill Loader Shovel which is available on a part-time basis. This system is not altogether satisfactory in view of the fact that up to 15 loads of refuse of varying kinds are handled daily. At present, and with the continued expansion of the town, this figure will undoubtedly increase. In these circumstances, consideration should be given to the provision of a machine which would operate full-time on the tip.

Again this year, a series of fires have broken out on the refuse tip, all due to unauthorised persons entering on the land after working hours and being careless in the use of cigarettes and matches. Garden refuse continues to be a major problem and great care has to be exercised to prevent fires arising from spontaneous combustion. The refuse collectors are instructed not to remove this type of refuse, but its total elimination is proving to be almost impossible. Garden refuse can only be satisfactorily handled if it is brought into the tip separate from general household refuse.

An area of approximately 10 acres has now been tipped upon and the ground level here is now some six feet above natural ground level. Consideration could now be given to putting approximately four acres to some use—such as playing fields, which are greatly lacking in this area.

Number of loads of refuse collected	2,190
Number of loads of refuse disposed of	2,482
Area of district, in acres	3,655
Population	12,069
Number of premises	5,502

SALVAGE

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Mixed Paper	135	2	0	1	1008	12	3
Fibreboard	36	12	0	14	347	19	8
White Paper	21	13	3	25	181	5	8
Rags	3	6	1	9	46	14	7
Cast Iron	1	14	2	5	11	4	6
Copper			2	2	4	2	8
Lead				19		8	6
Aluminium		2	1	25	10	10	2
Brass			2	0	2	12	6
Steel		6	0	0	1	16	0
Mixed light metals			2	0		6	0
Hair Mattresses		1	2	14		18	4
	199	0	3	2	£1,616	10	10

Salvage 1963	187	2	0	10	£1,540	18	6
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The income from salvage sold during the year showed an increase of £75.12.4d on the figure for 1963.

The cost of labour and materials is increasing year by year and in order to continue to show a profit, it is necessary to collect a greater amount of salvageable material. To this end it is hoped that the householders and traders of the town will continue to assist in this matter by putting out as much clean waste paper as possible.

During recent years, refuse generally has tended to become greater in volume and lighter in weight due to the increased use of gas and electricity as a means of cooking and heating and to the fact that a greater percentage of products sold in the shops are now produced in cartons. This will probably result in consideration having to be given to the type of refuse vehicle used for collection purposes and this in turn will necessitate a further look at the question of removal and sale of salvage as a whole.

WATER SAMPLING

	Bacterio- logical		Satis- factory		Unsatis- factory
Town Main Supply	54	...	51	...	3
Culvert—Nant Mill Pool ...	22	...	21	...	1
Private Supply, Wells, etc. ...	—	...	—	...	—
Streams	—	...	—	...	—
Swimming Pool (Lido)	3	...	3	...	—
Swimming Pool (Camp) ...	3	...	3	...	—
Total Samples Taken ...	82	...	78	...	4

Bacteriological samples are taken from properties at random throughout the Council's area and, with the exception of 3 unsatisfactory samples from the Council's mains and one from the culvert at Nant Mill Pool, all others proved to be satisfactory. The three unsatisfactory samples were taken from the new Reservoir which has been constructed at Dyserth before it was actually put into use. When subsequent samples proved to be satisfactory, this water was allowed into the mains. The unsatisfactory sample from the culvert at Nant Mill Pool is one of raw water and was taken, with others, in connection with the possible use of this source of supply as an additional supply to the town in the event of a shortage from Dyserth.

The results of a chemical analysis of the town's water supply are given in the Medical Officer of Health's Report.

SWIMMING POOLS

Both Swimming Pools continue to be operated in a satisfactory manner and, as will be seen in the previous table, water samples continue to show highly satisfactory results.

The water in both Swimming Pools is filtered and Chlorinated and there is a complete change of water every six hours. Mains water is used in the Holiday Camp Pool, and although sea water is used at the Royal Lido Swimming Pool the results of samples taken are equal to those obtained from water in our own mains.

FOOD AND DRUG PREMISES

(1) Number of Food Premises in the area, by type of premises :—

Grocers	38	Candy Floss Kiosks	3
Greengrocers	13	Ice Cream Kiosks	6
Confectioners	13	Cinemas and Theatres	2
Bakeries	12	Schools	7
Restaurants and Snack Bars ...	23	Homes	7
Butchers	10	Hospitals	1
Fishmongers and Game Dealers ...	4	Boarding Houses	5
Fried Fish Shops	5	Registered Clubs	9
Sweet Shops	17	Licensed Houses	9

Total: 184

This figure represents approximately one-third of the total business premises in the area.

(2) Food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :—

Grocers	20	Kiosks	6
Restaurants and Snack Bars ...	15	Fried Fish Shops	5
Sweet Shops	7	Butchers	1
Greengrocers	2		

(3) Two hundred and twenty-five visits of inspection have been paid to Food Premises in general, and 92 to those premises which are registered under the above-mentioned Act and Regulations.

(4) **Fried Fish Shops :—**

Number of Fried Fish Shops in District	5
These shops are well conducted.	

During the year 6 successful prosecutions were instituted in respect of offences under Section 2 of the 1955 Act.

I am pleased to report that in general the food traders are continuing their efforts to provide a clean service and in many instances improvements have been carried out to shop premises to further this end.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION

All the town's meat supply is slaughtered and inspected at the Rhyl Municipal Abattoir and from time to time is further inspected when exposed for sale in the local shops.

Other foods, canned goods, etc., are inspected when necessary, and the following is a list of unsound food condemned in the shops :

Solids		Liquids	
	lbs. ozs.		
Fruit	347 4	5½ pints Tinned Milk.	
Vegetables	30 9	8 ozs. Tinned Cream.	
Meat	297 8½	20.3 galls.—misc.	
Fish	63 15½		
Miscellaneous	21 5½		
	<hr/> 760 10½ <hr/>		

The amount of food stuffs found to be unfit for human consumption has increased considerably this year but the increase is largely due to the fact that on three occasions traders were unfortunate enough to have a breakdown in their refrigeration display cabinets, resulting in a complete loss of the contents. The number of crushed and damaged tins continues to increase and it would seem that more detailed consideration could well be given by the manufacturerers of fibreboard containers and by wholesale food merchants to the production of a container which will stand up, in a more satisfactory manner, to rough handling and transit. In very many cases the food stuffs which are found to be crushed are not unfit for human consumption but are in such a condition as to be unacceptable to the customer. The traders continue to co-operate in drawing my attention to any unsound food which may come into their possession.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

TABLE A
REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	41	41	—
Retail Shops	129	129	2
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	9	9	—
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	10	10	—
Fuel Storage Depots	1	1	—

TABLE B

Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises ... 4

TABLE C
ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	191
Retail Shops	403
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	113
Catering Establishments open to the public	83
Canteens	8
Fuel Storage Depots	5
Total ...	803
Total Males ...	328
Total Females ...	475

In general the occupiers of premises affected by the above Act have responded to the requirement to register their premises and as will be seen from the above table, a total of 190 premises were registered during the year and the necessary information in each case was passed on to the local Fire Authority for their attention.

The number of visits which was possible to carry out was extremely small due to the pressure of work in other directions.

Particulars of the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, in The Prestatyn Urban District Council area during the year ended 1964 by the County Public Health Inspector, Mr. E. Lewis.

Description of Article	Nos. Taken
Milk	8
Dairy Products	4
Sausages	8
Ice Cream	4
Alcoholic Drinks	3
Fish and Meat Products	2
Miscellaneous Groceries	16
Vegetables and Fruit	8

All samples were found to be satisfactory. No evidence of fungicides, colouring matter or pesticides were found in the samples of fruit or vegetables.

No evidence of Pencillin, Brucella Abortus, or Bovine Tuberculosis were found in the samples of farm bottled milk submitted for examination. Samples were also taken under the Pharmacy and Poisons Act and Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act, and these were satisfactory.

LICENSED PREMISES

All premises requiring a Magistrates' Licence were inspected during the year, and a report was presented to the Licensing Justices at the Brewster Sessions.

The premises inspected are as follows:—

Licensed Houses	10
Clubs	8
Public Halls, Cafe, etc.	5
Cinemas	2

I am pleased to report that during the year the owners of these premises who had been required to improve sanitary accommodation and cellars have proceeded with the necessary work and it is anticipated that by early next year all licensed premises will have sanitary accommodation of the required standard.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities ...	33	20	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	34	20	—	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found :—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	3	3	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :—				
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—
Total	3	3	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT : OUTWORK (Section 110 and 111)

Outworkers in August List required by Sec. 110 (1) (c) (2).

Wearing Apparel-making, etc. —

RODENT INFESTATION**PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949**

The duties of Rodent Officer are carried out by the General Assistant for the Public Health Department and during the year he has carried out a total of 284 visits to various premises. This is a considerable increase on the figures for 1963 and the investigations discovered were mostly of a minor character. Certain of the Council's property such as the Sewage Disposal Works, Refuse Tip and the Beach areas are inspected and treated as a matter of routine.

The majority of infestations of private households are still caused by the indiscriminate feeding of birds and unconsumed bread-crumbs, etc., being left on the ground. Generally speaking, the residents are very co-operative in discontinuing this practice when the risks of infestation are pointed out to them.

No difficulties are experienced in obtaining the co-operation both of the occupiers of private and business premises in reporting the presence of rats or mice.

The disinfection service is free to householders and a small charge is made for work done on business premises.

Treatment carried out

	Rats	Mice
Private Dwellings	75	4
Council Dwellings	7	2
Business Premises	18	5
Council Property other than Dwellings	89	4
Farms	5	—
Total Visits	194	15

CAMPS**CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960**

The licensed sites within the area are as follows :—

Caravan Site and Number of Caravans

Tan-y-Don Camp	66
Prestatyn Holiday Camp	135
Plas Deva Caravan Camp	45
White House Camp	13
Plas Morfa Caravan Site	9
Midnant Farm Caravan Site	20
Pen-y-Ffrith Caravan Camp	50
Morfa Du Caravan Camp	25
Ironmongers' Shop, Ffordd Talargoch, Meliden	1
Y Nyth, Plas Newydd Drive, Prestatyn	1
"Brookdale," Cefn-y-Gwrych, Meliden	1

The Caravan sites generally are well conducted, the owners are co-operating fully with this department in all matters.

The district continues to be very popular with campers who are inclined to pitch their tents in all parts of the district without reference to the owners of the land in question and considerable difficulty is experienced in controlling such indiscriminate camping and in maintaining any real standard of hygiene.

There are two camping grounds, used by the owners of tents, which enjoy "long-user rights" under the Town and Country Planning Acts, and these are filled to capacity during late July and early August. In practice, the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, do not provide adequate control of this temporary camping and it is possible that the limit of 42 consecutive days permitted under the Act may be rather too wide. It would appear that if properly laid-out sites were provided, preferably by the local authority and properly maintained, these would go a long way towards improving an ever-increasing demand on the part of the campers for reasonable holiday accommodation. The practice of taking holidays in caravans and tents is one which has grown tremendously since the end of the war and which has created a problem which must be met either by private individuals or local authorities.

Organised camps occupied by units of Boy Scouts and Boys' Brigade are set up each year, but since these are properly organised and well conducted they cause very little trouble to the department.

TALACRE WARREN

Work has continued on the re-development of this area as a caravan site and it is anticipated that with the exception of final surfacing of the roads, the whole site should be fit for occupation during 1965.

The remaining problem, that of the shops in this area, is still to be dealt with, especially in as much as they are now sub-standard when one takes into consideration the recent provision of an adequate water supply, drainage and sewage disposal system. It is anticipated that these premises will be the subject of discussion with the owners of the site in the near future.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are eight public conveniences in the town situated at the rear of the Palladium Cinema, Coronation Gardens, Central Beach, near the Grand Hotel, Pendre Gardens, Hillside Gardens, Meliden and The Ffrith Beach.

The misuse and wanton damage in these premises still continues as was reported last year, and although every effort has been made to apprehend offenders, these have been unsuccessful. With the exception of those toilets at the Ffrith Beach, it is an impractical proposition to provide permanent attendants owing to the fact that each unit is too small and, as a result, it is not possible always to maintain these facilities in a way that is to be desired.

Owing to the rapid growth of the town, the necessary facilities are proving to be inadequate and it is felt that, in addition to replacing the existing buildings in the Hillside Gardens, Central Beach and near the Grand Hotel, provision should be made for further conveniences to be erected in the Victoria Road West and Ffordd Penrhwyfya districts.

MORTUARY

No use was made of these premises during 1964.

HOUSING

The number of applications received for Council houses both for general need and for the Aged Persons continues to increase at a faster rate than vacancies are occurring. The great problem is that of the aged persons since time has shown that properties suitable for occupation by them become available only at the rate of one a year.

The council has agreed to build approximately 16 flats for aged persons but with a waiting list of 167 applicants it would seem that this number will make but very little impression.

(1) Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	17
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	61
(2) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	17

(2) Remedy of defects during the year with Service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	13
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(3) Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in defect of owners	—

(C) Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
(1a) Number of houses for which Undertakings were accepted	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—

(D) Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 :

(1) Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2) Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwellings having been rendered fit	—

(4) Housing Act, 1936 (Overcrowding) :—

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	30
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	41
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	176
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	12
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	4
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	22
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	—

The legal standard recognises living rooms as sleeping rooms, so that an ordinary 5-roomed house (2 living rooms and 3 bedrooms) could house 10 adults without being legally overcrowded.

In considering the cases of applicants for houses, the Council recognises a "bedroom standard" for overcrowding and this has helped to relieve many cases of near legal overcrowding.

RENT ACT, 1957

Certificates of disrepair issued	—
Certificates of disrepair cancelled	1

Apart from a small demand for Certificates of Disrepair during the first year of the operation of this Act there has been no further advantage taken of its provisions. It would appear that as a means of improving rented property in Prestatyn, this Act has failed to have the desired effect although this may, to some extent, be due to the fact that in very many cases every opportunity is taken to sell rented property and an increasing number of houses are becoming owner occupied.

PRIVATE AND ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN PRESTATYN URBAN DISTRICT AREA

Prestatyn Urban District Act, 1909.
 Prestatyn Water Act, 1909.
 Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.
 Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 (Whole Act).
 Public Libraries Acts, 1892 and 1893.
 Private Street Works Act, 1892.
 Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907
 (Except Parts V, VII and IX).
 Public Health (Buildings in Streets) Act, 1888.
 Highways Act, 1959.
 S.D.A. Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899-1923.
 Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.
 Public Health Act, 1925.

BYE-LAWS

Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions in Handling Food, 1950.
 Building Bye-laws, 1957.
 (Plus addition for Grates to burn smokeless fuel).
 Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures used for human
 habitation, 1931.
 Nuisances, 1899.
 Slaughterhouses, 1899.
 Water Bye-laws (made under Section 17, Water Act, 1945).
 Cemetery Bye-laws, 1928.
 Hackney Carriages, 1952.

CLIMATOLOGY OF PRESTATYN

Month	Temperature		Sunshine		Rainfall	
	Lowest	Highest	Longest	Total	Maximum	Total
January ...	27° (14th)	54° (31st)	5.9 hrs. (17th)	45.1 hrs.	0.19" (30th)	0.50"
February ...	26° (21st)	57° (24th & 27th)	7.3 hrs. (5th)	51.1 hrs.	0.17" (28th)	0.50"
March ...	28° (11th)	58° (23rd)	7.8 hrs. (11th)	64.4 hrs.	0.124" (24th)	2.29"
April ...	32° (5th & 7th)	67° (27th)	10.8 hrs. (5th)	103.1 hrs.	0.27" (24th)	1.60"
May ...	43° (15th, 16th & 25th)	76° (17th & 27th)	12.4 hrs. (19th)	163.4 hrs.	0.24" (30th)	1.13"
June ...	43° (2nd)	73° (12th)	9.7 hrs. (13th)	139 hrs.	0.6" (9th)	1.97"
July ...	48° (13th)	77° (17th)	12.5 hrs. (15th)	134.3 hrs.	0.25" (18th)	1.36"
August ...	40° (31st)	76° (25th)	12.8 hrs. (11th)	167.6 hrs.	0.56" (5th)	2.10"
September...	43° (1st)	74° (2nd)	9.2 hrs. (28th)	135.2 hrs.	0.41" (6th & 16th)	1.33"
October ...	37° (2nd)	68° (4th)	7.8 hrs. (3rd)	88.9 hrs.	0.88" (15th)	3.00"
November...	26° (11th)	61° (24th)	7.3 hrs. (9th)	58.5 hrs.	0.37" (28th)	1.48"
December...	20° (28th)	57° (7th, 8th & 12th)	5.5 hrs. (15th)	43.9 hrs.	1.31" (12th)	3.59"
Total Rainfall for the year: 20.85"						

With the continued increase in the growth of the town, it is becoming more difficult to carry out all the duties relating to the Department, especially those entailing routine inspections of factories and shops. Whilst every effort is made to apportion the time spent on indoor and outdoor duties, I find that the increasing amount of time which has to be given to office administration is tending to reduce the time spent on such routine matters as those mentioned above.

In conclusion, may I express my appreciation of the help and kindness shown me by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, Dr. D. P. W. Roberts, the Clerk of the Council, and the indoor and outdoor staff.

J. M. EDWARDS,

Public Health Inspector

